

## When a man loves his wife

Written by Timothy Houston  
Thursday, 06 February 2014 14:46

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This is the second article in which I go back to the original intent of this column, which is relationship building.

Two years ago, I set out to share insights from my book, "Men Are Dirt." The book is based on thoughts about men from a man's perspective. During this week of Valentine's Day, use this article as the catalyst for a healthy dialogue about your relationship. For those of you who are married, this article is based on chapter 6 of my book, and it is dedicated to you.

*And this provides a good picture of how each husband is to treat his wife, loving himself in loving her, and how each wife is to honor her husband: Ephesians 5:33 MSG*

There are no words more powerful than that of a husband. A real husband will praise his wife because of the love he has for her in his heart. She can trust him because she is safe with him. She knows that his words are not motivated by an attempt to take advantage of her sexually or emotionally, because he has made the greatest commitment for all to her, marriage. This is the basic fundamental principle that all men must learn. *He that loves his wife, loves himself: Ephesians 5:28*

Marriage requires commitment, but not all men are ready to be husbands. When it comes to relationships as it pertains to marriage, some men get "cold feet." They view matrimony as "lockdown" or the "old ball and chain." This approach is a negative view of marriage, portraying the highest level of commitment as a loss of freedom. This view of relationships may cause men to shy away from dating and any sort of friendship that could lead to commitment, resulting in their seeking to distance themselves from the women in their lives. This "space" or lack of commitment can over time, lead to neglect.

When a man loves his wife, he wants to spend time with her. He gives himself to her, and they

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both become better together. They are no longer two, but one. *For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will be one flesh: Genesis 2:24* When a man loves his wife, he loves himself, and together they are able to share this love with the world. This makes for better relationships, neighborhoods and communities. When this union takes place, we are all better because of it.

*Husband, go all out in your love for your wives, exactly as Christ did for the church – a love marked by giving, not getting. Christ's love makes the church whole. His words evoke her beauty. Everything he does and says is designed to bring the best out of her, dressing her in dazzling white silk, radiant with holiness. And that is how husbands out to loves their wives. They're really doing themselves a favor – since they're already 'one' in marriage: Ephesians 5:25-28*

It is my hope and prayer that every relationship achieves this oneness. Relationships are so important to me that if you mention my Insight News ad when you purchase a copy of the book, I will include a second copy at no additional cost for you to share with that special person in your life. You can get a copy at [www.menaredirt.com](http://www.menaredirt.com) . I encourage you all to get a copy of the book and share it with that significant person in your life. May your valentine and your Valentine's Day be special.

*Timothy Houston is an author, minister, and motivational speaker who is committed to guiding positive life changes in families and communities. To get a copy of his book, for questions, comments or more information, go to [www.tlhouston.com](http://www.tlhouston.com) .*